



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Brian A. Vaartstra

Group Art Unit: 2814

Serial No.: 10/032,049

Examiner: Thao Le

Filed: December 21, 2001

Docket No.: 150.01180101

Confirmation No.: 5131

Title: METHODS FOR PLANARIZATION OF METAL-CONTAINING SURFACES USING  
HALOGENS AND HALIDE SALTS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Mail Stop RCE

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

We are transmitting the following documents along with this Transmittal Sheet (which is submitted in triplicate):

- ☒ An itemized return postcard.  
☒ A Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (2 pgs); copies of 2 International Search Reports; 1449 forms (2 pgs); and copies of 21 documents cited on the 1449 forms.  
☒ A check in the amount of \$ 750.00, for Request for Continued Examination Fee.  
☒ Other: Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal (1 pg.);  
☒ Other: Amendment and Response (25 pgs. including Appendix A)  
Amendment ☐ No Additional fee is required. ☐ The fee has been calculated as shown:

Fee Calculation for Claims Pending After Amendment					
	Pending Claims after Amendment (1)	Claims Paid for Earlier (2)	Number of Additional Claims (1-2)	Cost per Additional Claim	Additional Fees Required
Total Claims				x \$18 =	
Independent Claims				x \$84 =	
One or More New Multiple Dependent Claims Presented? If Yes, Add \$280 Here →					
Total Additional Claim Fees Required					

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers and please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4895. Triplicate copies of this sheet are enclosed.

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26813

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

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# REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,  
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application  
filed on or after June 8, 1995.  
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	10/032,049
Filing Date	December 21, 2001
First Named Inventor	Brian A. Vaartstra
Group Art Unit	2814
Examiner Name	Thao X Le
Attorney Docket Number	150.01180101

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

## 1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☒ Other 1449 Forms including 21 cited documents

## 2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☒ Other \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 13-4895
- i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) 06/23/2003 BAERAH01 00000078 100000
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) 01 FC:1801
- iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 750.00 enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Loren D. Albin	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	37,763
Signature		Date	June 19, 2003

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (Print/Type)	GARA LADWIG		
Signature		Date	6-19-03

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.